

Abstract

The invention is an insulation material which comprises a silicon based matrix and a plurality of non-metallic beads supported in the matrix. In one embodiment of the invention, the matrix comprises a platinum cured, addition cured silicon material and the beads comprise a mean diameter of less than about 60 microns and an isostatic strength of at least about 10,000 psi. The insulation material may be used in conjunction with subsea oil and gas production equipment, such as pipelines, wellheads and christmas trees.